

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
7:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2012
Public Safety Building, 401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR

“Mission Statement: To give the citizens of Newberg a forum to voice traffic safety concerns, evaluate related issues, provide a liaison with the City and promote traffic safety within the community.”

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Neal Klein called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Members

Present:	Neal Klein, Chair	Lesley Woodruff, V. Chair	Doris Brandt	Karl Birky
	Dianna Cotter	Shannon Eoff	Ron Johns	Kari Lawson
	James Oravetz	Hannah Kinney, Student (arrived at 7:20 pm)		

Staff

Present:	Brian Casey, Police Chief	Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer
	Jay Harris, City Engineer/Engineering Manager	Mary Newell, Support Services Manager

Ex Officio

Present:	Mayor Bob Andrews	Jennifer Nelson, Minutes Recorder
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Others

Present: Larry Anderson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Mayor Bob Andrews affirmed and/or swore in Doris Brandt, Neal Klein, and Kari Lawson to their offices as Traffic Safety Commissioners.

CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS

- B)** Nomination and election of Chairperson of the Traffic Safety Commission
- C)** Nomination and election of Vice-Chair for the Traffic Safety Commission

MOTION #1: Brandt/Oravetz to reelect both the current Chair Neal Klein and Vice-Chair Lesley Woodruff for another year in their respective offices. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A)** Review and approve the work session minutes of November 14, 2011.

MOTION #2: Oravetz/Eoff to approve the Traffic Safety Commission work session minutes for November 14, 2011, as written. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

- B) Review and approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2011.

Corrections were discussed and noted by staff for the final copy. Mr. Chiu noted there needed to be a motion made regarding TSC-11-030 as it was left unresolved at the end of the discussion. Chair Klein moved the discussion and motion on this matter to Old Business on the agenda.

MOTION #3: Brandt/Cotter to approve the Traffic Safety Commission minutes for November 14, 2011, as amended. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Larry Anderson talked about concerns with the City's System Development Charge (SDC) funds for improvements like the Everett Street traffic signal and the effects it has on the development of the property formally reserved for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. He said the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) had until November 15, 2011, as a deadline to buy property or the City would lift all local restrictions. He spoke of property in the bypass corridor overlay, the Transportation System Plan (TSP), and items only going through staff approval without notice. He just wanted to bring some things to their attention regarding the use of SDC's and bypass activities.

Chair Klein stated the TSC did have discussions when the ODOT representatives visited to attempt to try to figure out things and alleviate problems up front. This evening they will be discussing the TSP updates and how this commission will interact with that, but they are at the information gathering stage and more discussions are to come before recommendations are made to Council.

Mr. Anderson suggested that before the TSP is developed the bypass was presumed and before further development can occur with permits to build, the TSP for Springbrook Oaks needs development without a bypass to assure things do not get blown through or that ODOT will replace or fix up areas if they do, so the community and developers do not have to fix up what is inevitable later.

Commissioner Dianna Cotter thanked him for the status information for development and the purchase of ODOT lands. She said she also has concerns for the traffic patterns around Springbrook Oaks and long term effects as well. Discussions occurred briefly to clarify the deadline he mentioned that passed regarding the bypass and items outside of the master plan being required by the City to be accommodated by developers. Mr. Anderson encouraged the TSC to keep informed about how applications are processed and how they affect the TSP or Springbrook area.

Mr. Jay Harris, City Engineer/Engineering Manager, introduced himself, complimented work done so far by commissioners and staff, and encouraged anyone to ask questions of him if they have them; he said they will be seeing more of him in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

- A) TSC-12-001: Neighborhood Traffic Flow Study for the Sheridan St./N. College St. area
TIME – 7:36 PM

Mr. Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer, discussed the concerns brought up regarding the traffic flow and recent accident in the Sheridan Street and N. College Street area as raised in a previous meeting by citizen Robert Soppe. Staff met with the city manager and larger concerns for the neighborhood came up in relation to the progress of the Chehalem Cultural Center and the Cultural District plans. Since the scope of this traffic analysis is much larger than originally anticipated staff intends to request the assistance of a traffic consultant to study

this area and make recommendations. A group will be formed to select a consultant for this project and staff suggested appointing a member from the TSC to assist with management and staff in that selection process.

MOTION #4: Brandt/Cotter to hire a consultant for TSC-12-001 to look at the neighborhood traffic flow study for the Sheridan Street and N. College Street area and make recommendations to the Traffic Safety Commission; and to elect a volunteer to represent the TSC during the consultant selection process. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

OLD BUSINESS

A) TSC-11-018: Highway 99W Speed Zone Investigation Report
TIME – 7:41 PM

Mr. Chiu presented staff report and recommended approving the entire ODOT study to receive the overall improvement rather than taking only parts (see official meeting packet for full report).

Commissioner James Oravetz said he wanted to see the speed limit raise between Brutscher and Vittoria to 45 miles per hour (mph) as he travels there quite bit with rush hour traffic and cars coming down off of Rex Hill already going faster than that. He felt it could be creating or intensifying a hazard, but if they are getting rest of the area at 35 mph, he is in favor.

Commissioner Shannon Eoff felt those speeds in the area of Brutscher, before Vittoria should be considered to be raised to 45 mph only if outlets are made for the hospital, Ford dealership, and the veterinarian because someone turning there with a raised speed limit will be more dangerous.

Chair Klein stated this is ODOT territory and we can only make recommendations; he felt they would be compromising in order to get what they wanted in the first place with 35 mph in areas where there are pedestrians; he would rather fight more on Zimri Road than in this section where the speed will be 45 mph right before a 55 mph zone.

Commissioner Oravetz spoke about issues with people trying to get to east bound lane from Vittoria. Chair Klein said that has been discussed before to make that a right in, right out only and they can keep looking at that since it is a City street.

Commissioner Karl Birky agreed with staff to support the recommendation whether they like it or not because they need to figure out ways to move people through town quicker in order to not make the same mistakes that have been made in Dundee.

Mayor Andrews asked staff if there was anything being done about the speed limit on 1st Street from River Street to the other side of Everest which was brought to ODOT's attention. Staff said that area was not included for this request.

MOTION #5: Oravetz/Cotter to approve the ODOT recommendation to increase the speed limit from 40 mph to 45 mph on part of 99W two-hundred (200) feet southwest of Vittoria Way to two-hundred fifty (250) feet northeast of Brutscher Street and to approve the recommendation to reduce the speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph 250 ft. northeast of Brutscher Street to 0.10 mile northeast of Elliot Street. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

MOTION #6: Brandt/Oravetz to appoint Karl Birky as the Traffic Safety Commission representative for the selection of a consultant for TSC-12-001. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

B) 2011 Traffic Safety Log of Decisions
TIME – 8:03 PM

Corrections were discussed and noted by staff for the final version of the TSC Log of Decisions for 2011. Mr. Chiu further discussed the need to make a motion tonight regarding TSC-11-030 that was left inconclusive at the November 14, 2011, meeting

C) TSC-11-30: Pinehurst from Main to College – Speed issue – Motion needed

Mr. Chiu gave updates and suggested language for the motion to accept the traffic study and not have any further action.

MOTION #7: Brandt/Cotter to accept the staff recommendation for TSC-11-030 to accept the traffic study with no further action by the Traffic Safety Commission at this time. Motion carried (9 Yes/0 No).

STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION

A) Police update

Police Chief Brian Casey reported January is usually the quietest month, but they have been recently very busy with an accidental shooting on Meridian Street and the use of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team with a domestic violence strangulation with fire arm situation and three additional domestic violence disturbances. He theorized holiday depression and alcohol use is often involved. He reported on efforts with the Shop with a Cop and Drug Take-Back programs as well as preparations for the Special Olympics.

B) Engineering update

Mr. Chiu spoke of updates to the cell phone policies and laws for hands free use; spoke of the addition to Jay Harris as the new City Engineer/Engineering Manager. He gave updates on the Crestview Drive project through Oxberg Estates; on College Street at Railroad with connections from Vermillion to Illinois; and the flashing beacon pedestrian crossing efforts with ODOT by Walgreens. He also referred to some comments made by Mr. Larry Anderson and the study that identified a need for signalization at some point at the intersection at Everett Street, stating the City is working on a collaborative effort with ODOT on this when funding may be available.

C) Items from Commissioners

Chair Klein welcomed the new members Kari Lawson and the student representative Hannah Kinney to the commission.

Mayor Andrews offered some details and updates regarding ODOT's efforts with the Bypass such as the Record of Decision (ROD) pending from the federal highway administration to be received by the end of March, the Environmental Impact Study (EIS), discussions with property owners and developers, continuing efforts on the first phase, and deadlines in regards to the moratorium on development in that corridor.

Chair Klein asked the Mayor and staff to keep the TSC updated; he mentioned work sessions have been tentatively scheduled for March and June for this year and maybe ODOT can be asked to attend after the ROD is received to share their progress on various projects.

Mayor Andrews briefly spoke about upcoming events for committee volunteer training and appreciation, asking the TSC to send in their responses with the poll for training topics on Tuesday, January 24, 2012.

Chair Klein spoke with staff regarding issues with the email system, especially with passwords, for many of the commissioners and requested to have a representative from the Information Technology (IT) department here at the next meeting or during a work session to assist with issues. Discussions also touched on privacy issues with using personal emails and public records law and mentioned this could be another topic for the upcoming training.

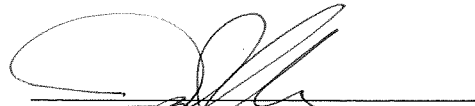
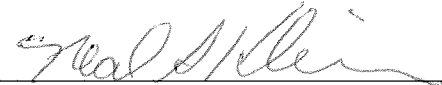
Commissioner Lesley Woodruff spoke of ideas and volunteers for writing being needed for the once of month posting the TSC makes on the City website.

Commissioner Karl Birky asked staff if the City has a Transportation System Development Charge. Staff replied they do.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM until February 13, 2012.

Approved by the Newberg Traffic Safety Commission this 13th day of February, 2012.


Jennifer L. Nelson
Deputy City Recorder
Neal S. Klein
Traffic Safety Commission Chair